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DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
24 MASON STREET
PROVIDENCE, R. I.
02903

MARY C. HACKETT
DIRECTOR

EMPLOYMENT BULLETIN

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
J. JOSEPH GARRAHY
GOVERNOR

VOLUME 30 NOVEMBER 1984 Number 11

RHODE ISLAND EMPLOYMENT TOTALS 408,600 IN OCTOBER

Total establishment employment in Rhode Island remained unchanged from September to October as a decrease in Manufacturing was offset by job gains in the Nonmanufacturing sector, reported Mary C. Hackett, Director of the Rhode Island Department of Employment Security.

According to preliminary estimates prepared by the Department of Employment Security, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, Rhode Island employment totalled 408,600 in October. While this figure shows no change from the September level, it represents a gain of 7,300 over the October 1983 total of 401,300.

MANUFACTURING

Reflecting a decrease due primarily to a temporary plant closing, total Manufacturing employment in Rhode Island dropped by 800 in October to a levebf 120,900. However, this represents a gain of 2,200 over the total of 118,700 reported a year ago this month. In the Durable Goods sector, the October employment figure of 81,900 was down 800 from September, but was 1,100 above the total recorded in October 1983. The October Nondurable Goods level of 39,000 was unchanged from September but was up 1,100 over its year ago total.

Within the Durable Goods sector, the largest monthly decrease was posted in Electrical Machinery (-1,000) due to a temporary plant closing. Declines were also evident in Miscellaneous Manufacturing (-200) and Primary Metals (-100). Jewelry/Silverware increased by 300 from September to October, while Fabricated Metals and Transportation

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1985 TAXABLE WAGE BASE

In accordance with State law, the 1985 taxable wage bases for the Employment Security and Temporary Disability Insurance programs have been determined. Mary C. Hackett, Employment Security Director, recently announced that the wage base on which Employment Security taxes will be paid during the 1985 tax year, which begins January 1, will be $10,600. The wage base for T.D.I. contributions will be $10,400.

The 1985 taxable wage bases for the Employment Security and Temporary Disability Insurance programs are equal to 70 percent of the 1983 annual average wage earned by workers covered by the Employment Security and Temporary Disability Insurance Acts, respectively — rounded upward to the next even multiple of $200. The 1983 average annual wage for workers covered by the E.S. Act was $14,888; the average annual wage for T.D.I. covered workers was $14,779.

It should also be noted that Experience Rating Schedule I will continue to be in effect for 1985. Tax rates in this schedule range from 2.8 to 6.0 percent of an employer's taxable payroll. Employers will be notified of their individual unemployment insurance tax rates prior to next April 1. The employee tax rate for Temporary Disability Insurance will remain at 1.2 percent of the new T.D.I. wage base in 1985.

FEDERAL LOAN REPAID

Employers are also reminded that the State Employment Security Fund's outstanding federal loan has now been fully repaid. As a result of this recent action, additional FUTA taxes, otherwise payable by Rhode Island employers by January 31, 1985, will not be imposed. Currently, this additional FUTA tax is equal to 0.6 percent of the first $7,000 in wages paid to each employee.

RHODE ISLAND JOB SERVICE OFFICES

BRISTOL COUNTY, 470 Metacom Ave. 245-9300
EAST PROVIDENCE, 877 Broadway 277-3537
NEWPORT, 5 Harrison Avenue 847-2038
PAWTUCKET, 109 Main St. 722-7500
PROVIDENCE, 130 West Exchange St.
Employer Services 277-3573
Jewelry 277-3553
Manufacturing & Construction 277-3556
Professional & Clerical 277-3584
Temporary Help 277-3559
NO. KINGSTOWN, 7734 Post Road 294-9923
NO. PROVIDENCE, 1951 Smith St. 231-5290
WAKEFIELD, Washington County Gov't. Center
Tower Hill Road 789-9721
WARWICK, 50 Airport Road. 737-7550
WESTERLY, 57 Spruce Street. 596-2814
WEST WARWICK, 1330 Main St. 828-6134
WOONSOCKET, 217 Pond St. 762-9010

OTHER JOB SERVICE TELEPHONE NUMBERS

JOB BANK 277-3588
or . . . . . Enterprise 2265
TJTC Information 277-3726
TJTC Job Orders. 277-6950
Call-A-Teen . . . . . Call your local Job Service Office
Project STEADY. 277-6813

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ACTIVITIES

	Oct. 1984	Sept. 1984	Oct. 1983
Total Placements	1,935-P	2,378	1,639
New Applications	4,494-P	4,029	3,157
New Openings Rec'd.	3,042-P	3,958	2,383

P-Preliminary

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY ACTIVITIES

	Oct. 1984	Sept. 1984	% Change Sept.1984
Initial Claims	8,925	5,494	+ 62.4
No. of Payments	35,566	34,917	+ 1.9
Amt. of Payments	$4,021,877	$3,759,154	+ 7.0
Exhaustions	802	758	+ 5.8

FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL COMPENSATION

Statistics for the Federal Supplemental Compensation Program, the cost of which is entirely Federally-financed, are presented below:

	Oct. 1984	Sept. 1984
Initial Claims	1,204	1,050
No. of Payments	7,262	7,280
Amount of Payments	$ 746,443	$ 735,949

RHODE ISLAND
Labor Force – Unemployment Estimates
(In thousands)

	Oct. 1984	Sept. 1984	Oct. 1983
Civilian Labor Force	500.6	498.2	477.0
Unemployment	22.1	22.5	29.9
Rate (Unadjusted)	4.4	4.5	6.3
Seas. Adjusted Rate	5.2	5.1	7.3

PROVIDENCE-WARWICK-PAWTUCKET Labor Area
Labor Force-Unemployment Estimates
(In thousands)

	Sept. 1984	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983
Civilian Labor Force	481.7	477.7	467.6
Unemployment	23.2	25.5	32.6
Rate (Unadjusted)	4.8	5.3	7.0

NEWPORT Labor Area
Labor Force-Unemployment Estimates

	Sept. 1984	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983
Civilian Labor Force	42,105	42,155	37,455
Unemployment	1,220	1,275	1,540
Rate (Unadjusted)	2.9	3.0	4.1

WESTERLY Labor Area
Labor Force-Unemployment Estimates

	Sept. 1984	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983
Civilian Labor Force	16,520	16,995	16,040
Unemployment	655	690	895
Rate (Unadjusted)	4.0	4.1	5.6

LABOR SURPLUS AREAS

The following cities and towns have been classified as Labor Surplus Areas by the U. S. Department of Labor. These classifications are effective through September 30, 1985. Establishments located in the following Rhode Island towns are eligible for preference in receiving federal contracts.

Bristol

Central Falls

Coventry

East Providence

Johnston

New Shoreham

Pawtucket

Providence

Warren

West Warwick

Woonsocket

TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS			NET CHANGE FROM	
	Oct. 1984	Sept. 1984	Oct. 1983	Sept. 1984	Oct. 1983
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT*	408.6	408.6	401.3	-	+7,300
MANUFACTURING	120.9	121.7	118.7	- 800	+2,200
NONMANUFACTURING	287.7	286.9	282.6	+800	+5,100
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	13.5	13.6	12.5	- 100	+1,000
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	13.6	13.8	13.4	- 200	+ 200
TRADE (Wholesale & Retail)	85.1	84.9	84.3	+200	+ 800
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	21.8	21.9	21.4	- 100	+ 400
SERVICE (Miscellaneous)	96.2	95.6	93.7	+600	+2,500
GOVERNMENT (Federal, State & Local)	57.5	57.1**	57.3	+400	+ 200

1983 Figures REVISED. 1984 Figures are PRELIMINARY. Estimates are for pay period which includes the 12th of the month.

Compiled by THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY in cooperation with the U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

* Farmers, Self-employed, Domestic and Armed Services personnel are excluded.
** Labor Dispute

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN R.I.

	EMPLOYMENT					PRODUCTION – WORKER AVERAGES					
	In Thousands			Net Change From		Weekly Earnings		Weekly Hours		Hourly Earnings	
INDUSTRY GROUP	Oct. 1984	Sept. 1984	Oct. 1983	Sept. 1984	Oct. 1983	Oct. 1984	Oct. 1983	Oct. 1984	Oct. 1983	Oct. 1984	Oct. 1983
ALL MANUFACTURING	120.9	121.7	118.7	- 800	+2200	$284.25	$275.41	39.7	39.4	$ 7.16	$ 6.99
DURABLE GOODS	81.9	82.7	80.8	- 800	+1100	294.26	279.68	40.2	38.0	7.32	7.36
LUMBER/FURNITURE	2.7	2.7	2.6	0	+ 100	268.58	278.87	35.2	39.5	7.63	7.06
STONE-CLAY-GLASS	2.2	2.2	2.3	0	- 100	314.03	383.67	39.5	43.5	7.95	8.82
PRIMARY METALS	5.9*	6.0	6.1	- 100	- 200	312.20	354.01	37.3	42.6	8.37	8.31
FABRICATED METALS	9.3	9.2	9.2	+ 100	+ 100	261.20	244.69	40.0	37.3	6.53	6.56
NONELECTRIC MACH.	6.8*	6.8*	6.5*	0	+ 300	421.82	362.39	45.9	40.4	9.19	8.97
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY	10.7	11.7	11.1	- 1000	- 400	251.16	264.80	39.0	38.6	6.44	6.86
TRANSPORTATION EQUIP.	9.7	9.6	9.0	+ 100	+ 700	421.74	367.32	42.6	40.1	9.90	9.16
INSTRUMENTS	4.8	4.8	4.7	0	+ 100	293.23	306.94	41.3	43.6	7.10	7.04
JEWELRY-SILVERWARE	24.2	23.9	24.1	+ 300	+ 100	217.28	206.93	38.8	37.9	5.60	5.46
MISCELLANEOUS MFG.	5.6	5.8	5.2	- 200	+ 400	275.77	262.86	40.2	41.2	6.86	6.38
NONDURABLE GOODS	39.0	39.0	37.9	0	+1100	274.89	270.09	38.5	39.2	7.14	6.89
FOOD-BEVERAGE	3.5	3.4	3.3	+ 100	+ 200	233.47	200.47	37.0	33.3	6.31	6.02
TEXTILES	11.0	11.0	11.0	0	0	256.35	246.98	38.9	39.9	6.59	6.19
APPAREL	3.3	3.4	3.3	- 100	0	214.76	218.50	36.4	38.4	5.90	5.69
PAPER PRODUCTS	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0	227.79	244.51	37.1	39.5	6.14	6.19
PRINTING-PUBLISHING	5.9	5.9	5.7	0	+ 200	411.67	391.26	38.8	38.7	10.61	10.11
CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	3.2	3.2	2.9	0	+ 300	375.97	358.91	41.0	37.9	9.17	9.47
RUBBER PRODUCTS	1.5	1.6	1.3	- 100	+ 200	285.22	287.32	38.7	41.4	7.37	6.94
PLASTICS PRODUCTS	5.2	5.1	5.0	+ 100	+ 200	273.80	280.19	37.1	40.2	7.38	6.97
LEATHER PRODUCTS	2.9	2.9	2.9	0	0	207.48	216.52	42.0	41.8	4.94	5.18

1983 Figures REVISED. 1984 Figures are PRELIMINARY. Estimates are for pay period which includes the 12th of the month.

Compiled by THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY in cooperation with the U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

*Labor Dispute

RHODE ISLAND
EMPLOYMENT
BULLETIN

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
24 Mason Street
Providence, R.I. 02903 - 1082

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BETHESDA MD
20814

WHENEVER YOU NEED WORKERS CONTACT RHODE ISLAND JOB SERVICE

(Continued from Page 1)

Equipment each added 100. The remaining Durable Goods industries showed no change during this period. On an annual basis, the largest employment increases in Durable Goods were reported in Transportation Equipment (+700), Miscellaneous Manufacturing (+400) and Nonelectrical Machinery (+300). Lumber/Furniture, Fabricated Metals, Instruments and Jewelry/Silverware posted gains of 100 each compared to their October 1983 levels. Annual job declines occurred in Electrical Machinery (-400), Primary Metals (-200), and Stone-Clay-Glass (-100).

In the Nondurable Goods producing sector decreases in Apparel and Rubber Products (-100 each) were offset by increases in Food-Beverage and Plastics Products (+100 each). The remaining Nondurable Goods industries were unchanged from their September levels.

Compared to October 1983, an increase of 300 workers was reported in Chemical Products. Food-Beverage, Printing/Publishing, Rubber Products and Plastics Products each showed an annual gain of 200 jobs. The remaining Nondurable Goods industries were unchanged from their year ago employment levels.

NONMANUFACTURING

Total employment in Rhode Island Nonmanufacturing establishments rose by 800 from September to October, primarily due to continued growth in the Service category. The October total of 287,700 is also 5,100 above the year ago level of 282,600.

Within this sector, Service posted the largest monthly job gain as it rose by 600 to reach 96,200 in October, which was 2,500 above its year ago level. Government, at 57,500, was up 400 from September and was 200 higher than in October 1983. Trade posted a monthly gain of 200, increasing to 85,100, which was up 800 from October 1983.

Transportation and Public Utilities, at 13,600, declined 200 from its September level but was 200 above the total recorded one year ago. The current Contract Construction employment level of 13,500 represents a decrease of 100 from September but is 1,000 above its October 1983 level. Finance, Insurance and Real Estate fell 100 from its September total to 21,800, but this figure is 400 jobs higher than reported a year ago in October.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

Average hourly earnings for Rhode Island's production workers increased by 1 cent to $7.16 in October; this represents a gain of 17 cents per hour compared to a year ago. The average work week decreased by 0.6 of an hour in October to 39.7 hours, but was 0.3 of an hour greater than the October 1983 work week. Average weekly earnings for Rhode Island's production workers in October amounted to $284.25. While this represents a decrease of $3.90 from last month, it is $8.84 more than was reported in October of last year.

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